

Message

From: Mendelsohn, Mike [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=720B16E1B31742738A728D8D2814BEEF-MENDELSON, MIKE]
Sent: 7/24/2020 2:11:25 PM
To: Overstreet, Anne [overstreet.anne@epa.gov]
Subject: Covid-19 impacts on Oxitec testing. No testing in 2020.
Attachments: ATT00001.txt

Covid-19 impacts on Oxitec testing. No testing in 2020.

From: Nathan Rose <nathan.rose@oxitec.com>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 10:07 AM
To: Mendelsohn, Mike <Mendelsohn.Mike@epa.gov>; Reynolds, Alan <Reynolds.Alan@epa.gov>; Bohnenblust, Eric <Bohnenblust.Eric@epa.gov>
Cc: Matthews, Keith <KMatthews@wiley.law>; Kevin Gorman <Kevin.Gorman@oxitec.com>; Brad Shurdut <bshurdut@gmail.com>
Subject: Oxitec update

Dear Mike, Alan and Eric

Hope you are keeping well!

I'd like to give a quick update on our progress towards field deployment of OX5034 under the EUP issued in April. We had state EUP approval issued by FDACS on 15 June. Since then, we have carried out several community engagement events and presentations to the local Florida Keys community, which led to the Florida Keys Mosquito Control District Board tabling the project in their monthly meeting last Tuesday evening. The board members were very supportive of the technology and the importance of the trial, especially in light of the recent dengue infections that have been reported in Key Largo. However, due to the rapidly escalating Covid-19 crisis in Florida, the FKMCD board postponed their decision on the EUP trial until their next monthly meeting on August 18, allowing for longer-term Covid-19 mitigation measures to be put in place.

Unfortunately, the worsening Covid-19 situation nationally means that we are not able to release OX5034 mosquitoes in Monroe County in 2020, and will now wait until early 2021. We remain very thankful for BPPD's hard work in completing the EUP assessments with the aim of achieving deployments in 2020! It would be helpful to discuss mechanisms for potentially extending the EUP period beyond April 2022, should this be required (e.g. if Covid-19 does not subside, or increases over the coming months, making it challenging to initiate the trial in early 2021).

Kind regards
Nathan

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